

1-1 By: Harris of Anderson, Anderson H.B. No. 624
 1-2 Morales of Maverick (Senate Sponsor - Birdwell)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 3, 2023;
 1-4 April 5, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
 1-5 & Human Services; May 4, 2023, reported favorably by the following
 1-6 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 4, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-8 | | | | |
| 1-9 | X | | | |
| 1-10 | X | | | |
| 1-11 | X | | | |
| 1-12 | X | | | |
| 1-13 | X | | | |
| 1-14 | | | X | |
| 1-15 | X | | | |
| 1-16 | | | X | |
| 1-17 | X | | | |

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to emergency medical transport by fire fighters of certain
 1-21 patients.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 773, Health and Safety
 1-24 Code, is amended by adding Section 773.0043 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 773.0043. FIRE FIGHTER EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PATIENTS;
 1-26 MEDICAL TREATMENT AND TRANSPORT OPERATING GUIDELINES. (a) In this
 1-27 section, "fire fighter" means:

1-28 (1) an individual who is defined as fire protection
 1-29 personnel under Section 419.021, Government Code; or

1-30 (2) an individual who is a volunteer fire fighter
 1-31 certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection or the State
 1-32 Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

1-33 (b) Notwithstanding Section 773.041, a fire fighter,
 1-34 regardless of whether the fire fighter is licensed as an emergency
 1-35 medical services provider, may transport a sick or injured patient
 1-36 to a health care facility in a vehicle other than an emergency
 1-37 medical services vehicle if:

1-38 (1) the appropriate emergency medical services
 1-39 provider:

1-40 (A) is notified of the patient's clinical
 1-41 condition; and

1-42 (B) is unable to provide emergency medical
 1-43 services imminently at the patient's location; and

1-44 (2) the medical treatment and transport operating
 1-45 guidelines for the patient's apparent clinical condition authorize
 1-46 transport of the patient in a vehicle other than an emergency
 1-47 medical services vehicle.

1-48 (c) Each trauma service area regional advisory council
 1-49 shall develop the medical treatment and transport operating
 1-50 guidelines necessary to implement this section for the area served
 1-51 by the council and provide notice of the guidelines to the emergency
 1-52 medical services providers and fire fighters in that area.

1-53 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2024, each trauma
 1-54 service area regional advisory council shall develop medical
 1-55 treatment and transport operating guidelines necessary to
 1-56 implement Section 773.0043, Health and Safety Code, as added by
 1-57 this Act, and provide notice of the guidelines to the emergency
 1-58 medical services providers and fire fighters in the area.

1-59 SECTION 3. Section 773.0043, Health and Safety Code, as
 1-60 added by this Act, applies only to transportation provided on or
 1-61 after January 1, 2024.

2-1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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